

*Treatment.*—To relieve the pain, cold was applied to the whole limb in the form of evaporating lotions, and the limb was supported on pillows. Small quantities of brandy and wine were administered, with milk and beef-tea.

On the day following, Mr. Savory saw the case with me, and gave me the benefit of his valuable opinion. He fully concurred in the diagnosis, but advised that the leg should be wrapped in cotton-wool, and pressed upon the most forcibly the necessity of increasing the quantity of stimulants, bidding me, to use his own words, "measure the quantity not by the glass or bottle, but by the effect produced." From this time, brandy, rum, port, sherry, and champagne were given every two or three hours day and night, till, on the sixth day from the time that I first saw him, he was taking in the twenty-four hours, brandy  $\bar{\text{z}}$ xij; rum  $\bar{\text{z}}$ xij; wine  $\bar{\text{z}}$ xx. The effect of this on the pulse was as follows: It rose from 60 to 94, the intermissions at the same time becoming less frequent, and the volume better and better, till, on the tenth day from the time that the stimulants were first given, and while he was still taking the above quantity, it *felto* 84, and ceased to intermit. His general condition improved, *pari passu*, with the pulse. At the request of the patient, I returned to the cold applications, after having made fair trial of the cotton-wool and found that it made the leg uncomfortable, while the cold relieved the pain in a marked degree. On the twelfth day, the pain having quite subsided, while the swelling remained unchanged, the leg was carefully rolled in flannel bandages, moderate pressure being at first employed and gradually increased, and it was swung from a fracture cradle, with the foot slightly raised. This was continued during a period of seven weeks, at the end of which time the swelling had entirely disappeared. It may be remarked, that the œdema subsided rapidly for the first week after the application of the bandage, but then seemed for a time to remain stationary, and was at last slowly removed. The quantity of stimulants was gradually reduced after the fourth week.

"The circumstances," Dr. T. remarks, "of principal interest in the treatment employed are, the beneficial effect of cold, the value of pressure, and the necessity of stimulants.

"The application of cold—a remedial agent so largely employed in Germany—is strongly recommended by Virchow as the best and often the only means of alleviating the terrible pain that follows the sudden obstruction by an embolus of one of the large arteries of the extremities. The relief it afforded in this case was most marked. Pressure carefully applied and gradually increased by means of a flannel bandage—a plan of treatment employed by many obstetric physicians in the later stages of the puerperal phlegmasia dolens—was here, too, attended with good results. The rapid and manifest improvement in the general condition of the patient, and the restoration of the heart's power in proportion as the quantity of stimulants was increased, sufficiently indicate their importance in the treatment of such cases. And, surely if alcohol acts thus beneficially after the mischief has been done, we cannot avoid the reflection, that the free use of alcohol in wasting diseases may often avert the mischief altogether, and that the stimulant plan of treatment has, at any rate, this much to be said in its favour, that it tends to prevent the formation of thrombi. In the history of this disease we have, certainly, one satisfactory example of the way in which a real advance in pathology leads to a corresponding advance in therapeutics."

15. *Rubeola Notha—an Anomalous Exanthem.*—Dr. BABINGTON brought recently to the notice of the Epidemiological Society an eruptive disorder or exanthem, of an anomalous character which has within the last few weeks been so prevalent, at least in London, as to entitle it to the designation of an epidemic. He had himself seen several cases, and heard of many more. It is a papular eruption, in many respects resembling rubeola, but distinguished from it in that the papulæ were less distinct, not arranged in crescentic clusters, and do not appear on the limbs, or, at least, but very slightly and rarely. There is also more constitutional disturbance in proportion to the extent of the eruption, and the convalescence is more speedy and complete. It differs from roseola by not being symptomatic of any other disorder, and by being papular in

character, the patches, too, being more circumscribed and duskier in hue. There is also more prominent congestion of the head, and the disease runs a more definite course. From scarlatina the eruption differs in being essentially papular, and by being unaccompanied by any prominent soreness or ulceration of the throat. The prognosis of the affection is favourable, and so far as is yet known it is rarely or never fatal. From the general resemblance of this eruptive epidemic to measles, Dr. Babington proposes to designate it *Rubeola notha* (illegitimate, or bastard measles). In respect to treatment, Dr. Babington stated that the feverish symptoms accompanying the malady are best met by cooling salines, diluent beverages, and a light diet. Gentle aperients are occasionally required, but during the eruption spontaneous diarrhoea sometimes occurs. The debility during convalescence, which is considerable, indicates tonics and stimulants. Dr. Babington recommended the society to call for further information on the subject of the epidemic, remarking that "the disorder, though comparatively unimportant in itself, deserves to be observed accurately; and it is only through the independent efforts of many that a comprehensive knowledge of any disease can be obtained." He added, however, that it is quite possible that this seemingly trivial disorder may be the precursor of some other of graver import.

The designation proposed by Dr. Babington will meet a difficulty which has been felt by practitioners who have had opportunities of observing this epidemic, and who have been at loss how to name it. The term very happily characterizes the affection, and will doubtless meet general acceptance.—*Lancet*, May 7, 1864.

16. *Trichina Epidemic at Leipzig*.—Dr. E. WAGNER observes that this might naturally be expected from the amount of food derived from the pig consumed in the raw state at Leipzig, and from the great number of times in which encapsulated trichinæ have been found in the muscles of persons dying of various diseases. Having met with an instance of this in 1859, he has since then made a point of looking for trichinæ, and has found them in greater or less numbers in between thirty and forty bodies. They were encapsulated and generally calcified, but in every instance but two the trichinæ exhibited signs of life on the application of gentle heat.

Between November 7, 1863, and January, Dr. Wagner has had eleven cases of trichiniasis in the living person under his own notice, and he thinks that the symptomatology of the affection is sufficiently distinct now to be able to dispense with exploratory punctures or "harpooning." In almost all these cases the affection remained latent for six or seven days after eating the poisonous food, the earliest symptom being in the mild cases œdema of the face, and in the more severe cases a general febrile condition, accompanied with catarrh of the stomach and slight diarrhoea. Œdema in other parts of the body was only observed in three cases. The muscular pains appeared first in the lower extremities, being increased on pressure or movement. Motion of the limbs after long rest was attended by especially severe pain; but in no cases were these pains so great as to prevent all movement. On palpation the muscles seemed in parts quite normal, and elsewhere somewhat swollen and tense. In three cases only was there pain in eating and speaking and hoarseness of voice. In four of the cases which assumed a very grave character there was considerable fever, the pulse rising from 120 to 140, but in the other slighter cases fever was not present. In two cases in which careful search was made no trichinæ could be detected in the stools. Convalescence was tedious, occupying two or three weeks in slight cases, and six or eight in severe cases, the pains of the extremities long continuing, and the emaciation being great.

Two deaths occurred in the persons of a mother and her daughter. The first of these suffered from severe muscular pains until the twenty-sixth day after the poisoning, when she suddenly died while sitting up in bed; and the daughter on the twenty-third day, with all the symptoms of severe typhus. At the post-mortem examination, the blood of the various organs was found to be free of trichinæ, nor did hours spent in the search discover any among the contents of the intestine. The muscles contained numerous trichinæ in the encapsulated